

# Abe Sailors Face New Safety Concerns in DPIA

MCSN GEOFFREY LEWIS  
*Penny Press staff*

While USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) is in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash., accidents are bound to happen. However, Abe’s Safety Department hopes to educate the Sailors to avoid injuries and accidents as much as possible

“There is no job that doesn’t have inherent danger,” said Electronics Technician 1st Class (SW/AW) Ozovese Akerele, a member of Lincoln’s Safety Department. “There’s a variety of work that’s hazardous.”

This is Akarele’s fifth trip to the yards. His first was while he was onboard the USS Ingraham (FFG 61). This will be his first onboard Lincoln. His advice for first timers are just two words, “Be careful.”

One thing to worry about is foot traffic on and off the ship, commented Akerele. There’ll be a lot of traveling back and forth, since there won’t be any services on the ship while it’s in the yards. Meals, berthing, and other necessities will all be off ship.

Some of the biggest hazards for first timers, Akarele said, are the forklifts, cranes. Even the dry dock itself, said Akarele, can be dangerous.

Akarele stressed how important it is for everyone in the yards to be observant of their surroundings, everything there could potentially be a safety problem.

The main issue being addressed before Lincoln arrives at the dry docks is preventing injuries from falling objects.

“The whole area is a hard hat area, people are aloft everywhere,” said Akarele. “If someone drops a tool, that hard hat could save your life.”

The hardest thing the Safety Department has to tackle is making sure everyone knows where the proper protective equipment is needed.

“It’ll be posted where you have to have a hard hat and safety goggles,” said Akarele. “It’s for your own safety to obey those rules.”

“Even if it’s not a designated hard hat area,” Arekele added, “if you feel there’s a drop hazard, by all means, put it on. Nobody’s



USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) Sailors will be facing a new set of safety issues when the ship moves into Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash. This picture, taken last yard period, shows how crowded the Hangar Bays can get during the maintenance period.

going to yell at you for wearing your hardhat in a non-designated area.”

Whether some may not agree with the safety standards put out by the Safety Department, it is for your protection. Their ultimate goal, after all, is to keep you safe from harm.

# NEWS

## Lincoln Returns After Scheduled Deployment

By MC1(SW/AW) JUAQUIN JUATAI

*Special to the Penny Press*

USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) returned to her homeport of Everett, Wash., Aug. 8 following a five-and-a-half month deployment to the Western Pacific.

"All hands aboard are certainly looking forward to coming home to Everett," said Capt. C. Andrew McCawley, Abraham Lincoln's commanding officer. "The crew is anticipating some well deserved leave and liberty, and we are all looking forward to rejoining our families and loved ones."

Lincoln departed Everett, Wash., Feb. 27, stopping in San Diego to load the personnel and equipment of Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2 before heading west.

The ship and air wing participated in Operation Foal Eagle in the South China Sea before making its first port call of the deployment in Hong Kong April 6.

Upon leaving Hong Kong, Abe participated in a Passing Exercise (PASSEX) with the Royal Thai Navy and hosted the U.S. ambassador to Thailand, as well as many Thai distinguished visitors aboard during the brief underway period between the Hong Kong and Thailand port visits, before becoming the first aircraft carrier to moor pierside in Laemb Chebang, Thailand.

The ship proceeded to Singapore for another port visit before conducting freedom of navigation exercises and a PASSEX in the Java Sea.

While in the Java Sea, the U.S. ambassador to Indonesia and several Indonesian officials flew out to the ship to once again thank the crew for their efforts to provide humanitarian assistance during Operation Unified Assistance in the aftermath of the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami disaster.

Abe then sailed north to participate in PASSEX and training exercises with the Japanese Maritime Defense Force before conducting a port call in Sasebo, Japan.

The carrier sailed participated in Exercise Valiant Shield 2006. Valiant Shield was the first exercise in more than a decade to employ three carrier strike groups, as the Lincoln joined USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63) and USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

At the end of Valiant Shield, Abraham Lincoln pulled in to Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to enjoy the 4th of July holiday weekend, and to kick off Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2006. RIMPAC is a multinational exercise including the navies of Chile, Peru, Great Britain, Australia, Japan and South Korea. The month-long exercise was designed to continue the close relationships between U.S. forces and those of the participating nations.

After a final port call in Hawaii, Abraham Lincoln headed for San Diego and then toward home.

According to McCawley, the deployment was a successful one.

"From the extremely important mission of projecting U.S. policy abroad to the equally vital mission of presenting an image of America as a global citizen who respects and enjoys the cultures of other nations, the Sailors of Abraham Lincoln have performed in an exemplary fashion," McCawley said.

"Our participation in several exercises, our cooperation with the navies of several of our allies in the western Pacific region and our ambassadorship in foreign ports was the perfect example of today's professional Sailors performing their duties to the utmost," he said.



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### August 25, 1951

Twenty-three fighters from USS Essex (CV 9) escort Air Force heavy bombers attacking Najin, Korea, a target that was beyond the range of land-based fighters.

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## News

# Abe's Junior Sailor of the Quarter Announced

MCSN GEOFFREY LEWIS

*Penny Press staff*

Aviation Electronics Technician 2nd Class (AW/SW) Jason Young was selected as Lincoln's Junior Sailor of the Quarter (JSOQ).

Young is the day shift supervisor of Shop 8, part of Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department's (AIMD) Third Division (IM-3), and ensures parts as well as personnel working for him are taken care of from day to day.

Young said this was the first time he had been nominated for a JSOQ award.

"I was excited because I've just been here six months," Young said. "I felt like this was really a good way to put my best foot forward for this command."

Young was awarded JSOQ for his hard work, dedication, and exemplary performance over the last quarter.

Although this was Young's first time being selected for the award, he said he wasn't as nervous as most first time candidates would have been.

"To be honest, I felt confident going in to it," said Young. "I was a little nervous, but I'd just come off recruiting duty for three-and-a-half years, so I'm used to having to talk to people.

I think that helped me a lot."

Since his arrival early this year, he's been a very motivated sailor, said Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class (AW) Ronnie Reyes, Shop 8's leading petty officer.

"The day he checked in, the first thing he asked was, 'What qualifications do I need and how do I get them?' [His performance] has been non-stop since."

Young's dedication to his job and loyalty to those he works with makes him a respected leader among the men and women in his shop.

"He's the best shop supervisor we've had by far," said Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd Class Michael Babcock, one of the Sailors working alongside Young in IM-3. "He doesn't ask us to do anything that he doesn't do," Babcock said. "He leads by example, not with words. He'll tell us to do work and then be right alongside us."

Young's quest to achieve his qualifications and his blue collar approach to leadership led to his selection, but he said it wasn't easy.

"It's pretty competitive," Young said, "but if you want to be successful, you've got to keep on pushing. I know it can be tough, but there are a lot of rewards. Work hard and eventually it's going to pay off."

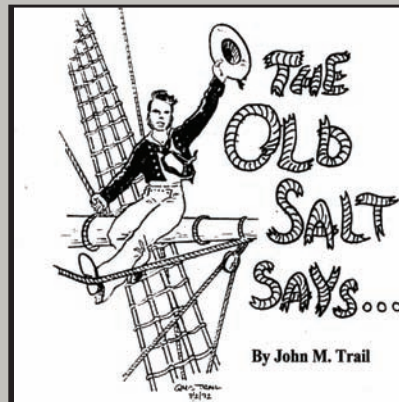
## ABE'S COMMAND PICNIC RETURNS

**USS Abraham Lincoln's (CVN 72) Morale, Welfare and Recreation proudly sponsors Lincoln's Command Picnic Aug. 25. There's fun for the whole family with face painting, an inflatable boxing ring, go-karts, various games and prizes. Come for the food, stay for the fun. The Command Picnic will be at the softball fields from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Aug. 25. For more information, contact MWR at j-dial 7028.**



## Channel Fever

"Avast there shipmate," I've seen a lot of you with "channel fever" as we stood into port. This nautical slang is for the excited Sailor standing into home port after a long cruise overseas, panting to get ashore and home to see his loved ones. "Cape Horn fever" is another. It's a malingerers feigned illness when bad weather blows up or when very hard work was required. "Cape Stiff", "The Horn" or Cape Horn at the southern-most tip of South America was always feared by deep-water Sailors as the constant stormy weather of the "roaring forties" off the Cape was often so foul that a feigned illness was the only way of keeping out of the death, crippling danger, and horribly miserable conditions a Sailor had to tolerate to work his ship around the Horn.



# Final Words



## Shipmates

*The strength of a warship lies in the hearts and hands of its crew*



Photo By MCSN James R. Evans

Intelligence Specialist First Class (SW/AW) Mark Craft greets his son after returning from a deployment aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72).

## Editor's Top 10

### Reasons to go to Abe's Command Picnic.....

10. Come and enjoy the barbecue and the weiners.
9. Two Words: Dunk-Tank & Chiefs
8. Win a new car if you win MWR's newest game, "Where's John Porter?"
7. How else will you make fun of the people going to the picnic?
6. No one works on Fridays anyways.
5. Take your wife or girlfriend, just don't take both at the same time.
4. Popcorn, soda, cotton candy, barbecue? All four food groups are met.
3. It's a good way to make new friends... or enemies for those around the beer garden.
2. Honestly, who doesn't want to relax with 3,000 of their closest friends?
1. It's mandatory fun.



PHOTO BY SK1(SW/AW/SS) RICHARD WARD

USS Abraham Lincoln Safety Department's

## Safety Sailor of the Week

**AN Bodie Ronk**



While preparing a weapons elevator door for painting, AN Bodie Ronk, of Weapons' G-4 division, ensures his safety by using the proper PPE (goggles, hearing protection and a dust respirator).